

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ **8**, wherein the base includes a disc for engaging with the cover of the lamp seat.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ **8**, wherein the cover includes two openings for respectively receiving the ends of the illuminating tube.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ **8**, wherein the illuminating tube has two helical illuminating tube sections respectively extending from the ends of the illuminating tube in a direction away from the base and merging with each other at an apex.

Claim 5 (original): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim 4, wherein a radius of each of the helical illuminating tube sections increases and then decreases in the direction away from the base.

Claim 6 (original): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim 4, wherein the helical illuminating tube sections have the same radius.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ **8**, wherein the illuminating tube and the lamp seat together define a spherical outline.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~[[The]]~~ **A** fluorescent lamp **comprising:**  
**a base;**  
**a lamp seat including a cover and a housing, the cover being securely mounted to the base, the housing receiving an illuminating circuit; and**  
**an illuminating tube having two ends mounted to the base, the illuminating tube defining a compartment as claimed in claim 1 which the housing is received,** wherein the housing further includes a reflective layer applied to an outer periphery thereof.

Claim 9 (original): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim 4, wherein the base includes a disc for engaging with the cover of the lamp seat.

Claim 10 (original): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim 4, wherein the cover includes two openings for respectively receiving the ends of the illuminating tube.

Claim 11 (original): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim 4, wherein the illuminating tube and the lamp seat together define a spherical outline.

Claim 12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (new): The fluorescent lamp as claimed in claim 8, wherein the outer periphery is received in the compartment of the illuminating tube with light beams from the illuminating tube being reflected by the reflective layer outwardly away from the outer periphery of the housing past the illuminating tube to thereby provide a second illumination and to increase illumination effect.